

## The Times-Dispatch.

Published Daily and Weekly

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THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1904.

## Reckless Financiering.

On Monday night the Common Council, upon a majority vote, added \$17,000 annually to the pay-rolls of the police and fire departments of Richmond, and this in face of the fact that the budget had already been stretched to its utmost capacity. In plain English, the Common Council made a present of nearly eighteen thousand dollars of Richmond taxpayers' money to these two departments, embracing in all some two hundred and twenty-five men, without knowing how or whence the money so promised is to be raised. We have nothing but praise for Richmond's policemen and firemen, and we grudge them nothing in reason; but the Council must be just before it is generous, and it should not gratify its desire to reward these city officials at the expense of the tax-payers or in defiance of sound business principles.

What corporation, with an estimated income of \$1,871,000, which was all that could be reasonably hoped, and all of which was required for imperative needs, would deliberately add to its appropriation the gratuitous expense of \$17,000 for increased salaries? The Times-Dispatch, without judging the question of salaries for policemen and firemen, regards the fact as significant that the increases, amounting to \$17,000, were proposed by members of the Council of their own motion, and were not asked for by the police board or the fire commissioners. The Times-Dispatch is informed that the increases in salaries for the last census, will pay sixty cents more a year to the officeholders than was paid last year. The workman is worthy of his hire, and we hope never to see the day when Richmond will not do justice by the men who are in her service; but when the city needs streets and lower taxes and cheaper gas and water, is it wise, is it right, to appropriate so great an amount as this to increased salaries? No wonder "there was general good feeling," as the report of the meeting says; but how will it be next year, when we have to meet the debts so cheerfully created now? How will it be in ten years if such a spirit of careless expenditure and happy-go-lucky financiering goes unchecked and unchecked? How will Richmond ever improve her condition or make life more pleasant or less costly for her citizens if such is to be the provision made for the future?

No body of stockholders in a corporation would tolerate such management, and Richmond is, after all said and done, only a big company in which the tax-payers are shareholders. The question before the shareholders is, "What dividends are you getting in civic improvements?" If none, then why not? If the burden of debt is being increased, then why so, and to what end?

It will pay every tax-payer in Richmond to read the budget as proposed; to note the reduction of \$2,000 in the appropriation to the Mechanics' Institute in order to make our civic coat fit our cloth, and then to note the increased pay-rolls, and ask, "To what end?"

## The Smoot Case.

The investigation of Senator Reid Smoot, of Utah, by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, has developed two interesting facts. The one is that polygamy is by no means dead in the State of Utah, and the other is that Mr. Smoot is under the control and domination of the Mormon Church.

President Joseph F. Smith openly acknowledges that he has five wives, and that he has been living with them in the matrimonial relation for several years past, and is still living with them. Senator Dubois gave it as his opinion that there has been no material reduction in the number of polygamists since 1890. Several of the "Twelve Apostles" are practicing polygamy and the president of the board of trustees of the Utah Agricultural College has more than one wife.

President Smith was questioned concerning the candidacy of Mr. Smoot for the Senate, and in reply to the question said that he had given his consent to Mr. Smoot to run. When asked why his consent was necessary, he replied: "Because it is the rule that any one of the general authorities of the church desiring to engage in any business outside of his church duties must get the consent of the first President and Twelve Apostles before he can do so."

This brings prominently to the front the much discussed question of church and State. The Constitution provides that "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office of public trust under the United States." It is also provided, however, that "each

house shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members." Every man may worship God in his own way, but he must not, under the guise of religion, violate the laws of the land.

If any religious denomination should sanction human sacrifices, members of such denomination would not be excusable for slaying the victims.

Polygamy is demoralizing and tends toward the destruction of the home and individual character. It is barbarous and is not to be tolerated by modern civilization. Nor is the church which teaches it to be tolerated. Nor is the man who believes in such a doctrine or who is dominated by such a church a proper person to sit in the Congress of the United States.

There is no sort of doubt that the Mormon Church still believes in polygamy, and there is no doubt that many of its leading members still practice it. If Mr. Smoot wishes to clear his skirts, he must quit the Mormon Church and get from under its dominating influence.

## The Negro in Haiti.

In the current issue of the Independent there is an article on Santo Domingo by Mr. William Thorpe, an Englishman, who for five years was editor of the Daily Gleaner, of Kingston, Jamaica, in which position he had exceptional facilities to gather information concerning conditions in the West Indies. He confirms the reports of others that the negroes of Haiti and Santo Domingo have degenerated into barbarism, and that they are about as low an order of human beings as it is possible to conceive. There are some honorable exceptions, but what he says is true of the masses.

But the one thing in his article which especially interests us is what he has to say about the hatred of the negro for the white man. He tells us that white people are disliked both in Haiti and Santo Domingo; but that the dislike is more bitter in Santo Domingo, the republic of mulattoes, than it is in Haiti, the republic of negroes. This "antipathy," as he calls it, is responsible for three-fourths of the offenses against Americans and Europeans. Whenever money and supplies are needed by the insurgents, or the administration of the hour, the foreigners are the first to be plundered, and the "antipathy" is so great that foreigners submit to all sorts of outrages rather than take their cases into court.

Mr. Thorpe relates an incident in point. He recalls a case in which an English merchant caught a thieving clerk red-handed, and, being new to the country, prosecuted him. The evidence was conclusive, his guilt as clear as daylight. But the criminal's lawyer was not at all disturbed by the evidence that was piled up against him. He sat smiling throughout the trial, and when the prosecution ended, turned to the mulatto judge and said: "Surely you do not mean to give this white man the verdict at the expense of one of your own color?"

That was the entire defense. The crowd court rang with applause, and the judge promptly discharged the prisoner. "He well knew," adds the writer, "that if he did not do so, he would stand an excellent chance of assassination and a certainty of removal from office."

Here is an interesting study in race antagonism. The northern people call it "prejudice." Mr. Thorpe calls it "antipathy." "Prejudice" is not the word at all, and "antipathy" is too mild. This antagonism in Santo Domingo and in the United States and elsewhere between the black man and the white man grows out of a deep-seated instinct which the creator himself implanted. It can no more be removed than the color of the skin can be changed.

The negro thinks that he has a poor show in this country where the whites control the government. But it is certainly better than the show which the whites have in Haiti and Santo Domingo, where the blacks are in control.

## Slipped the Noose.

John Kennedy, the train wrecker, has succeeded in escaping from Staunton jail and for the present at least is out of the reach of the hangman, but we are strongly inclined to the belief that he will be recaptured.

From the newspaper accounts, it was carelessness on the part of those who should have watched him which gave him the opportunity to escape. His custodian for the moment was a negro and probably a sleepy-headed one at that.

Inasmuch as Kennedy had exhausted all his efforts in the vain attempt to obtain executive clemency and knew that he was to be hanged, unless he secured liberty by violence or strategy, his jailers (recognizing these facts) ought to have doubled their precautions, not only to keep him in his cell, but to keep him within the walls of the jail should he break out of the cell. Instead of that, by an unfortunate train of circumstances, Kennedy found complete escape easy of accomplishment.

It is to be hoped that Kennedy will be recaptured. His case has been exhaustively heard by judges and jury and patiently reviewed by the Governor. The fixed conclusion of all is that he deserves death.

Of all possible crimes, that of train wrecking is one of the most horrible. And is one upon which the law should lay its hand heavily. It is planned with devilish deliberation and the perpetrator is quite willing to do much murder for the plunder he may secure.

For the sake of the community and of his much too trustful jailer, it is to be hoped Kennedy soon will be returned into the hands of the officers of the law, to undergo, at the proper time, the sentence imposed upon him.

## The Republic's Backbone.

The Tazewell Republican reproduces some remarks of ours on the subject of Democracy, in which we spoke of the many discordant elements constituting the Democratic party, and add:

"Granted that the national Democracy is constituted as set forth by our Richmond contemporary, can there be any doubt of its inability and unfitness to conduct and control the affairs of this

great republic? Can there be any intelligent purpose or honest action with or by such an unorganized, discordant mass of humanity? What better is it when gathered together than a wild and dangerous mob?"

Call it what you will, the Democratic party is the backbone of the republic, and whenever it comes to pass that the people composing that organization are not capable of self-government, the republic will go to pieces.

## Farmers' Club.

Various substitutes for the old "county court days" are being tried in the State, but the most popular seems to be a monthly meeting of farmers; a farmers' club, indeed.

Such a club ought to be as useful and as interesting to farmers as a chamber of commerce or board of trade is to the people of a city.

If its meetings are made attractive there will be no difficulty in inducing the people to attend, and it ought to be easy to make them not only interesting, but serviceable in a high degree.

If there's one thing that will rile the Charlotte Observer, it is for a newspaper in some other State to attempt to produce a poet whose "worseness" transcends that of the genuine Tar Heel product. Whenever such an attempt is made, the Observer bounds merrily into the arena with a specimen of North Carolina poetry that lays over anything outsiders can dig up. Then it lies back with a "beat-that-if-you-can" expression that is almost heroic. They're not going to down North Carolina, while our contemporary can handle a club—Montgomery Advertiser.

That fellow would brag about anything. He'd brag about having a bigger mortgage on his house than any man in any other State ever carried. He'd even brag about having the biggest list of delinquent subscribers. There's no use fooling with such a shameless braggart. We're not right here in Virginia pools just as mean as they've got in North Carolina. But we don't parade 'em in the newspapers any more'n we can help. If we printed all the mean poetry we receive at this office—but the subject is too horrible to discuss.

A Nelson county farmer, in a letter to "The Richmond Times-Dispatch," makes some very ugly charges against the crowd, and condemns him utterly. He thinks a crowd might eat some select variety of worms if they were placed before him on a silver platter, or some kind of "hot" but that it is too much like work for him to hunt for them. The writer claims that he knows what he is talking about, while those who hold a contrary opinion know very little about it.—Danville Register.

In its March number, the Southern Planter comes out in favor of the crowd, but we doubt if even his influence can avail to change public opinion. The crowd has a bad name in Virginia, whether he deserves it or not, and in consequence will have to suffer as men similarly situated have had to suffer.

The New Orleans Times-Democrat says that in the Southwest there has been no extreme cold weather this winter, such as they had in 1890, and that there have been few severe storms.

While the cold has been severe and protracted in the North and West, the tourist travel from the North to the South has been much less than usual. This it attributes to the business depression in the East, where the shrinkage in Wall Street stocks and the lopping off of dividends have made many of the millionaires more economical and more careful in expenditures.

A correspondent of the New York Sun says that the testimony of Apostle Smith will be ruled out—that "no man who would marry five wives could possibly be considered sane."

Quite so; but if Smith wasn't sane what can be said of the women whom he married?

If the members of the General Assembly have been reading the State papers, they have learned that their action in defeating the Torrens bill was not popular.

The United States Supreme Court seems to say that as the Northern Securities case is difficult, it will reserve its decision, but will eventually decide in favor of the government.

Every good Democrat should take the trouble to find out whether or not the charges against Hearst are true before booming him for the presidency.

Perhaps President Smith wants to be father of his country.

## With a Comment or Two.

The State of North Carolina never invested any money in immortal mind that had paid such a large and quick dividend on the investment as the money it has put in the State Normal and Industrial College at Greensboro.—Raleigh News and Observer.

The same may be said about our normal school at Farmville, but some members of the Virginia Legislature do not seem to think so.

The only objection which was urged against the adoption of the Torrens system was that it might diminish the fees of the clerk of court, and the Government wealth. Grant it, and shall the many suffer that the few may shine? The clerk is a worthy man, and his fees are to be compared with the general good of the farmers of the State.—Farmville Herald.

The people will get their eyes open after a while, and when they do they will show the fee-takers who rule in this old Commonwealth.

We hear that a petition has been circulated for the purpose of asking for the establishment of a dispensary to break up the dryness.

We trust no Methodist voter's name can be found on the list sanctioning the return of the sale of liquor in any form or manner.—Danville Methodist.

That means that it is against the rules of a Methodist Church for any member to sign such a petition.

## Remedy for Boll Weevil.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Owing to the fact that the boll weevil is becoming more and more numerous in the South it behooves those interested to take active measures to eradicate it. A pest which bids fair to destroy the cotton fields of the South. Now, I have been informed by competent authorities who have used the remedy that the boll weevil can be destroyed by planting cowpeas broadcast over the lands where they existed last year.

The cowpea is a hardy plant, and the peas are grown, and if such is the case, and as the remedy is so cheap, it would not be a waste of money to plant it at once, because it is worth trying, and in addition, there is no better fertilizer in the world than cowpeas.

I suggest you publish this in the Inter-

## PORT ARTHUR

For hundreds of years Chinese coasting junk, trading along the Yellow Sea in the coastwise trade, had run into the landlocked harbor of Lu Shun Kow, down at the extreme southern end of the Liaoting peninsula. All along the shore great gray cliffs ran up straight from the sea to a height which varied from 500 to 1,500 feet. It was almost impossible to make out a slit of light in the darkness which gave entrance to a body of water within. This slit was not more than 200 or 300 yards wide. Once you got through the passageway there was a wide stretch of water before you, hemmed in by cliffs on every side. At high tide the water was deep enough for the anchorage of a big ship, but when the tide went out hundreds of acres of mud flats were exposed to view.

In the valleys between the cliffs were built some fifty or sixty miserable mud huts, and in them lived some 400 Chinese. This was the situation up to 1890 when what is now Port Arthur.

In that year three or four ships of the British navy came that way on a surveying expedition. One of these ships was the gunboat *Albatross*, commanded by Lieutenant William Arthur, a young man of the United States with that and the adjacent ports has been estimated at nearly \$100,000.

But the Russian plan has been from the first to make Port Arthur a purely military and naval center. With that plan in view the Russians several years ago began the construction of the wonderful city of Dainy, thirty miles north and ten miles east of Port Arthur, which they hope to make the commercial capital of the far East. The plan is to place there all the commercial ships which have been out of Port Arthur and sent to Dainy and that the former fortress shall be barred to civilians, where, indeed, they are now allowed only on temporary leave.

Dainy—or rather the site of the present city—was located on an open roadstead, where the navies of all nations might ride. In order to make there a safe harbor, an immense breakwater, costing millions, was built across the mouth of the bay, and the sea for a great distance and enclosing a splendid anchorage.

At Dainy, also, great administrative buildings were erected and even—this rare thing in the far East—a first-class and comfortable hotel.

But the final terminus of the great Siberian railroad by means of which Russia has tied together her widely scattered empire.

Visitors to Port Arthur within the last few years have been vastly impressed by the spirit of boundless energy which prevails there. Life in the fortress city is in great contrast to that in most of the settlements along the Chinese coast.

The streets have been thronged with Russian soldiers and with great numbers of sailors, all busy on some important errand.

The Russian soldier, as seen at Port Arthur, impresses the visitor as being in deadly earnest. Before them, all from the lowest private in the ranks to the highest officer, shines the bayonet of the little cross of St. George for valor or the face of the enemy. And on the day of St. George the brave men who wear his cross have the honor of breaking bread with the great white bear himself in his palace at St. Petersburg.

At Port Arthur, the Chinese are quartered at the table of the czar's viceroys, Admiral Alexieff—and how can greater honor come into the life of one of these wily Cossacks, wrapped in skins and furs, even tougher and harder than his master?

So, strangely, in the passing of the years and in the working out of the policy of the nations, has the little Chinese junk harbor of forty years ago, named after the English, fortified by the French, for the Chinese, won by the Japanese at a great cost of blood and finally leased and turned into a Pacific Gibraltar by the Russians, come to be the center of the world's interest.—H. M. H., in Chicago Tribune.

Deserve the approbation and gratitude of an appreciative public. R. S. WILLIAMS. Roanoke, Va., March, 1904.

## Change of Venue.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—There has been a deep interest manifested here in the measures for the extradition of the man known to have been suggested by the arrest and trial of the criminal who perpetrated the recent deplorable murder at the hotel in the city. One of the bills, which increasing the penalty of accessories after the fact, has been met with hearty endorsement, but this one has not.

It is not my purpose to call in question the good faith of our representatives, but to enter a protest against the attempt to enter a bill which would give the law to the measures, but to call attention to some danger signals as they appear in the legislation. It is a trenching upon dangerous ground if there lurks the faintest possibility of a change in the pathway of a certain class of criminals.

Granting the purposes of the measures design, and promising desirable results, let us ask if they do not also contain possibilities of evil to the community. Under certain conditions it is made mandatory upon the judge to grant a change of venue upon the request of the prisoner, who will there not be extended a privilege not heretofore accorded by our laws, and which will be held with great delicacy by the guilty of a heinous crime? What would produce a greater relief to such a criminal than the knowledge that he has a right to demand trial at a place remote from the scene of his offense? Will this not tend to lessen the error of the law and minimize its deterrent of crime? Would not the State be subject to greater expense and difficulty in securing witnesses, and would not this difficulty at times even defeat the ends of justice?

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which gives the navy of the czar a port which is never frozen. Moreover, it is a port which commands the approach to Peking, the Chinese capital.

Never since the Russian occupancy has there been any cessation of activity in and about Port Arthur. In miserable hovels on the hillside swarm thousands of coolies, who at a word can be hired for twenty cents a day to do any kind of hard and adventuresome work.

Last year a Russian cutter, the *Port Arthur*, offered to bet that within a half hour he could hire 10,000 men outside of his regular large force. These regular forces are extremely large, and are kept steadily at work, both by land and sea.

Any time within the last few years, a fleet of from 500 to 1,000 Chinese junks, all loaded with railroad ties, lumber and other building material. They, of course, are all working for the Russian government.

An important result of the Russian occupancy of Port Arthur has been a tremendous increase in the imports from the United States. During several weeks in 1902 American goods to the value of more than \$2,000,000 weekly were landed at Port Arthur and the yearly commerce of the United States with that and the adjacent ports has been estimated at nearly \$100,000.

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## Religion in Russia and Japan.

"Holy Russia" is the name given to the empire by its rulers. The name has not been adopted by other nations for obvious reasons. It is not apparent that any nation or empire can be called "holy."

The "old heaven" manifests itself too plainly for such characterization. There was a Holy Roman empire once on a time, but it was a punctured bladder soon after its organization. Russia wants to make use of her self-imposed title to disparage her opponent, Japan. In the eyes of the Christian world, she says to the nations of the earth that she has been forced into a war with paganism and the yellow peril. It may be well to compare the religious situation in the two nations in order to test Russia's right to represent Christianity in the conflict.

There is a church, which extends its jurisdiction over her whole vast territory. It is called a Christian church, but many of its rites and ceremonies savor more of paganism than the teachings of Christ.

All of the czar's subjects are expected to be members of the Russian Church and to accept pains and penalties and to be deprived of the simplest privileges. There is no such thing as a religious freedom from the Baltic to Vladivostok.

In Japan religion is as free as air. Any man can worship as he pleases. There are plenty of Buddhists and Shintoists, and there are also numbers of Christians. Not the slightest restrictions are placed upon Christianity and Christians. There are members of Christian churches who command her intelligence, who sit in her cabinet and who preside over her parliament. The Christian religion is freely preached from one end of the island to the other. The laws and constitution are in accord with those of the vast majority of Christian States. The people are absolutely free, and all the strictures and such laws prevail in Japan. It is in reality a democratic empire, where everybody can do as he pleases in religion as in anything else, so long as he behaves himself. Nominally, Japan is not a Christian nation, but in fact she is.

There is more Christianity to the square inch in the little empire than there is in the square mile in unwieldy, persecuting Russia.

If the Christianity of Christ be the test of religion, or even that slight measure of it which has thus far been attained by the Christian world, Russia seems to be about the poorest representative that can be imagined.—Baltimore American.

## Take Senate Today.

Artist W.W. Foster photographed the House members and officers on the front steps of the Capitol yesterday. He announces that he will take the Senate today.

## GOLD MEDAL TOOK ACID FOR RINGER



For the quick preparation of a delicious drink, for making chocolate icing or for flavoring ice cream, Lowney's "Always Ready" SWEET CHOCOLATE POWDER has no equal. The full chocolate adulterated and unimpaired.

## TIRED OF OBEYING WHITE PEOPLE

Negro Attacks Employer With Pitchfork and Is Killed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) RALEIGH, N. C., March 8.—Marcus Edwards, a prosperous young farmer, three miles from Raleigh, shot and killed Solomon Smith, a negro, who had been employed by him as a farm hand, this afternoon. The negro was coming at Edwards with a pitchfork when the latter drew a pistol and sent a ball through his forehead, so that particles of his brain oozed out. Edwards had scolded the negro for being insolent and not